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Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997*

Part V Regional cooperation for development

Section 19
Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

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* The present document contains section 19 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997. The complete proposed programme budget will subsequently be issued in final printed form as *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/50/6/Rev.1).

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Section 19
Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

Overview

19.1 The mandate of ESCWA derives from Economic and Social Council resolution 1818 (LV) of 9 August 1973, which established the Economic Commission for Western Asia. The terms of reference of the Commission were amended by Council resolution 1983/69 of 26 July 1985, in which the Commission was redesignated the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia.

19.2 The ESCWA region has been witnessing rapidly changing political, economic and social events that have necessitated a reassessment of the development approaches and identification of a framework of a new development paradigm that would allow economic growth coupled with social equity. In addition to the economic and social transformations triggered by endogenous forces, the globalization process will also have a long-lasting impact on the national economies of ESCWA member States. Furthermore, the initiated peace process brings its own challenges not only in the political arena, but also in the economic, social and technological spheres.

19.3 In order to reflect those changes, ESCWA redirected the focus of its programme so as to meet the emerging immediate and long-range needs of its member States and to strengthen its role as a forum for coordinating developmental efforts at the regional and subregional levels. The outcome was a major restructuring in an effort to streamline its activities, become more focused and increase interaction with member States. This entailed moving from a sectoral programming approach encompassing 15 subprogrammes to 5 thematic subprogrammes. One of the characteristics of the new approach is that the activities under the new subprogrammes would be implemented in an integrated manner, through task forces representing the various disciplines involved, in order to take advantage of the complementarities and increase efficiency. This new programme structure was approved by the Commission.

19.4 The work programme for the biennium 1996-1997 will focus on clusters of issues brought into the spotlight by recent events, such as energy, natural resources, environment, human development, economic cooperation and the impact of global changes and the peace process on the region. Emphasis on the development of a social and economic information system and the expansion of databases has become crucial in assisting member States of the region to understand the changes that are taking place and to develop the capacity and the information to assess the issues at hand and to evaluate the options available to them.

19.5 The Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 1994/43, decided that the permanent headquarters of the Commission should be relocated to Beirut and requested the Secretary-General to take the necessary steps to effect the transfer. At the present juncture, consultations with the Government of Lebanon have not yet been finalized.

19.6 The overall level of resources proposed under this section reflects a growth rate of 1.5 per cent, which is due mainly to the delayed impact of the five reclassifications approved in the biennium 1994-1995 but funded only in part, and the reclassification of one Local level post to the Professional category proposed for the biennium 1996-1997.

19.7 The estimated distribution of the resources proposed for ESCWA in 1996-1997 would be as follows:

		Regular budget	*Extra-budgetary*
		(percentage)	
A.	Policy-making organs	0.2	—
B.	Executive direction and management	7.3	—
C.	Programme of work	44.3	100.0
D.	Programme support	48.2	—
	Total	**100.0**	**100.0**

Table 19.1 **Summary of requirements by programme**
(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Programme		*1992-1993 expenditures*	*1994-1995 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*1996-1997 estimates*
				Amount	*Percentage*			
A.	Policy-making organs	58.3	78.4	8.3	10.5	86.7	6.0	92.7
B.	Executive direction and management	2 247.2	2 537.2	76.9	3.0	2 614.1	182.9	2 979.0
C.	Programme of work	13 035.2	16 112.2	(151.5)	(0.9)	15 960.7	1 093.2	17 053.9
D.	Programme support	17 141.9	16 485.3	611.6	3.7	17 096.9	1 416.9	18 513.8
	Total	**32 482.6**	**35 213.1**	**545.3**	**1.5**	**35 758.4**	**2 699.0**	**38 457.4**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1992-1993 expenditures	*1994-1995 estimates*	*Source of funds*	*1996-1997 estimates*
		(a) Services in support of:	
—	—	(i) United Nations organizations	—
335.7	37.0	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	—
74.1	20.0	(b) Substantive activities	
		(c) Operational projects	
250.7	115.3	UNDP	171.0
460.3	329.3	UNFPA	205.0
—	—	UNESCO	25.0
—	76.9	UNIFEM	88.0
—	—	UNICEF	20.0
—	75.3	UNEP	—
200.3	82.6	ESCWA Trust Fund	—
—	338.4	Multilateral sources	199.0
—	237.4	Bilateral sources	135.0
Total	**1 321.1**	**1 312.2**	**843.0**
Total (1) and (2)	**33 803.7**	**36 525.3**	**39 300.4**

Table 19.2 **Summary by object of expenditure**
(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1992-1993 expenditures*	*1994-1995 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*1996-1997 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	26 990.1	28 846.8	589.3	2.0	29 436.1	2 277.8	31 713.9
Other staff costs	161.7	175.9	8.3	4.7	184.2	12.8	197.0
Consultants and experts	511.5	756.1	(32.1)	(4.2)	724.0	39.5	763.5
Travel	393.9	522.9	(39.0)	(7.4)	483.9	28.0	511.9
Contractual services	287.8	452.9	(6.4)	(1.4)	446.5	30.8	477.3
General operating expenses	3 059.7	3 119.5	25.2	0.8	3 144.7	217.4	3 362.1
Supplies and materials	535.9	548.2	—	—	548.2	38.1	586.3
Equipment	542.0	790.8	—	—	790.8	54.6	845.4
Total	**32 482.6**	**35 213.1**	**545.3**	**1.5**	**35 758.4**	**2 699.0**	**38 457.4**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1992-1993 expenditures	*1994-1995 estimates*	*Object of expenditure*	*1996-1997 estimates*
330.2	360.0	Posts	—
346.0	270.4	Other staff costs	282.0
122.2	290.1	Consultants and experts	375.0
233.7	192.4	Travel	115.0
—	—	Contractual services	—
27.5	35.0	General operating expenses	—
—	—	Supplies and materials	—
—	—	Furniture	—
174.2	28.9	Equipment	—
—	—	Improvement to premises	—
—	—	Fellowships, grants, contributions	—
87.3	135.4	Other expenditures	71.0
1 321.1	**1 312.2**		**843.0**
33 803.7	**36 525.3**		**39 300.4**

Table 19.3 **Post requirements**

Programme: Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1994-1995	*1996-1997*	*1994-1995*	*1996-1997*	*1994-1995*	*1996-1997*	*1994-1995*	*1996-1997*
Professional category and above								
USG	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
D-2	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
D-1	8	8	—	—	—	—	8	8
P-5	19	19	—	—	1	—	20	19
P-4/3	60	60	—	—	—	—	60	60
P-2/1	15	16	—	—	—	—	15	16
Total	**104**	**105**	**—**	**—**	**1**	**—**	**105**	**105**
Other categories								
Local level	186	185	—	—	1	—	187	185
Field Service	3	3	—	—	—	—	3	3
Total	**189**	**188**	**—**	**—**	**1**	**—**	**190**	**188**
Grand total	**293**	**293**	**—**	**—**	**2**	**—**	**295**	**293**

A. Policy-making organs

Table 19.4 **Summary by object of expenditure**
(Thousands of United States dollars)

Object of expenditure	*1992-1993 expenditures*	*1994-1995 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*1996-1997 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Other staff costs	58.3	78.4	8.3	10.5	86.7	6.0	92.7
Total	**58.3**	**78.4**	**8.3**	**10.5**	**86.7**	**6.0**	**92.7**

19.8 The Commission provides overall direction to the work of the secretariat. It has three subsidiary bodies, the Technical Committee, the Statistics Committee and the Committee on Social Development. The Commission and its subsidiary bodies meet biennially (1997).

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Staff costs

19.9 The estimated requirements of $86,700 relate to temporary assistance for meetings. The increase of $8,300 is due to the need to service the newly established Committee on Social Development.

B. Executive direction and management

Table 19.5 **Summary by object of expenditure**
(Thousands of United States dollars)

Object of expenditure	1992-1993 expenditures	1994-1995 appropriations	Resource growth		Total before recosting	Recosting	1996-1997 estimates
			Amount	Percentage			
Posts	2 163.0	2 438.8	79.4	3.2	2 518.2	176.4	2 694.6
Consultants and experts	—	15.0	(15.0)	(100.0)	—	—	—
Travel	84.2	83.4	12.5	14.9	95.9	6.5	102.4
Total	**2 247.2**	**2 537.2**	**76.9**	**3.0**	**2 614.1**	**182.9**	**2 797.0**

Table 19.6 **Post requirements**

Programme: Executive direction and management

	Established posts		Temporary posts					
	Regular budget		Regular budget		Extrabudgetary resources		Total	
	1994-1995	1996-1997	1994-1995	1996-1997	1994-1995	1996-1997	1994-1995	1996-1997
Professional category and above								
USG	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
D-2	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
D-1	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
P-5	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
P-4/3	3	3	—	—	—	—	3	3
P-2/1	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
Total	**8**	**8**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**8**	**8**
Other categories								
Local level	11	13	—	—	—	—	11	13
Total	**11**	**13**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**11**	**13**
Grand total	**19**	**21**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**19**	**21**

19.10 The Executive Secretary provides overall executive direction, management, policy guidance and leadership for the secretariat to implement the programme of work of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies. The Office of the Executive Secretary assists in the coordination of programme oversight, in particular, the formulation, implementation monitoring and evaluation of the programme of work; management of ESCWA strategy for programme planning and activities to respond to emerging needs and priorities of member States of the region; facilitation of inter-agency dialogue on regional needs and opportunities for operative action in the economic and related fields; dissemination of information about the work and activities of ESCWA; external relations; cooperation with the global programmes of the United Nations; and coordination of work in preparation and follow-up of global conferences of the United Nations in fields in which ESCWA is competent and for which it has a mandate.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

19.11 Resources would provide for 8 posts in the Professional category and above and 13 Local level posts. The redeployment of two Local level posts from subprogramme 3, Economic development and cooperation,

is proposed in order to support the Secretary of the Commission in carrying out the expanded responsibility entrusted to him regarding the monitoring of the work of the multidisciplinary task forces; and to strengthen the capacity of the Programme Planning and Coordination Unit in monitoring more closely the implementation of the programme of work and the use of resources for programmed activities.

Travel

19.12 The estimated resources of $95,900, reflecting an increase of $12,500, relate to the travel of the Executive Secretary, the Deputy Executive Secretary and their immediate staff for consultations with Governments, regional commissions and specialized agencies, attendance at meetings within and outside the region and inter-agency coordination.

C. Programme of work

Table 19.7 **Summary of requirements by programme**
(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Programme	*1992-1993 expenditures*	*1994-1995 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*1996-1997 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
1. Management of natural resources and environment	2 361.7	2 956.3	(59.0)	(1.9)	2 897.3	194.6	3 091.9
2. Improvement of the quality of life	2 934.4	3 717.0	(11.4)	(0.3)	3 705.6	247.5	3 953.1
3. Economic development and cooperation	4 883.7	5 906.9	(92.1)	(1.5)	5 814.8	420.8	6 235.6
4. Regional development and global changes	1 635.6	2 019.9	11.0	0.5	2 030.9	131.1	2 162.0
5. Special programmes and issues	1 219.8	1 512.1	—	—	1 512.1	99.2	1 611.3
Total	**13 035.2**	**16 112.2**	**(151.5)**	**(0.9)**	**15 960.7**	**1 093.2**	**17 053.9**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1992-1993 expenditures	*1994-1995 estimates*	*Source of funds*	*1996-1997 estimates*
		(a) Services in support of:	
—	—	(i) United Nations organizations	—
—	—	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	—
74.1	20.0	(b) Substantive activities	—
		(c) Operational projects	
250.7	115.3	UNDP	171.0
460.3	329.3	UNFPA	205.0
—	—	UNESCO	25.0
—	76.9	UNIFEM	88.0
—	—	UNICEF	20.0
—	75.3	UNEP	—
200.3	82.6	ESCWA Trust Fund	—
—	338.4	Multilateral sources	199.0
—	237.4	Bilateral sources	135.0
Total	**985.4**	**1 275.2**	**843.0**
Total (1) and (2)	**14 020.6**	**17 387.4**	**17 896.9**

19.13 The proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997 is derived from programme 34 of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, which has been reformulated along a thematic approach, comprising five thematic subprogrammes, which would allow the Commission to concentrate its resources on economic and social issues of a multidisciplinary nature and on regional economic cooperation geared towards improving the quality of life of the people in the region.

19.14 The main objectives of the programme of work for the biennium 1996-1997 are (a) to enhance the state of statistics and information in the region and to develop the capacities of member States in those areas; (b) to promote awareness and knowledge regarding the environment within the context of regional priorities and conditions and in terms of natural resources, quality of life and environment-friendly technologies; (c) to regionalize human development concepts and indices and to promote their operationalization in the region; (d) to monitor and analyse social and economic changes in the region, including, in particular, those resulting from the peace process; (e) to promote the development of community institutions and to facilitate their interaction; and (f) to create awareness and promote knowledge regarding the implications of the implementation of such economic measures as the new international trade agreements (Uruguay Round) and quality standards of industrial products (ISO 9000), as well as other policy measures relating in particular to capital markets and trade efficiency.

19.15 The estimated distribution of resources among the subprogrammes would be as follows:

	Regular budget	*Extra-budgetary*
	(percentage)	
Subprogramme 1 Management of natural resources and environment	18.1	—
Subprogramme 2 Improvement of the quality of life	23.2	72.4
Subprogramme 3 Economic development and cooperation	36.6	9.5
Subprogramme 4 Regional development and global changes	12.7	2.4
Subprogramme 5 Special programmes and issues	9.4	15.7
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**

Subprogramme 1
Management of natural resources and environment

Table 19.8 **Summary by object of expenditure**
(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1992-1993 expenditures*	*1994-1995 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*1996-1997 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	2 254.4	2 760.9	—	—	2 760.9	187.5	2 948.4
Consultants and experts	86.3	93.6	(7.5)	(8.0)	86.1	4.5	90.6
Travel	21.0	101.8	(51.5)	(50.5)	50.3	2.6	52.9
Total	**2 361.7**	**2 956.3**	**(59.0)**	**(1.9)**	**2 897.3**	**194.6**	**3 091.9**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1992-1993 expenditures	1994-1995 estimates	Source of funds	1996-1997 estimates
		(a) Services in support of:	
—	—	(i) United Nations organizations	—
—	—	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	—
—	—	(b) Substantive activities	—
		(c) Operational projects	
—	75.3	UNEP	—
Total —	**75.3**		—
Total (1) and (2) **2 361.7**	**3 031.6**		**3 091.9**

Table 19.9 **Post requirements**

Programme: Management of natural resources and environment

	Established posts		Temporary posts					
	Regular budget		Regular budget		Extrabudgetary resources		Total	
	1994-1995	1996-1997	1994-1995	1996-1997	1994-1995	1996-1997	1994-1995	1996-1997
Professional category and above								
D-1	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
P-5	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
P-4/3	8	8	—	—	—	—	8	8
P-2/1	2	2	—	—	—	—	2	2
Total	12	12	—	—	—	—	12	12
Other categories								
Local level	8	8	—	—	—	—	8	8
Total	**8**	**8**	—	—	—	—	**8**	**8**
Grand total	**20**	**20**	—	—	—	—	**20**	**20**

19.16 During the biennium 1994-1995, activities under this subprogramme concentrated on shared water resources, the application of new technologies, especially remote sensing techniques, to water exploration; water quality; energy efficiency; renewable sources of energy; promotion of the establishment of a regional power generation network; the implementation of the Ministerial Arab Declaration on Environment and Development in the region; environment legislation; and the establishment of the Joint Committee on Environment and Development in the Arab Region.

19.17 During 1996-1997, the subprogramme will focus on the promotion of subregional and regional cooperation in the management of natural resources. In that context, emphasis will continue to be placed on such areas of particular importance to the region as the development of shared water resources, non-conventional water resources and the impact of pricing policies on water demand. In addition, issues relating to water legislation will be addressed for the first time during the biennium. The development of renewable energy resources, improving the efficiency of energy use and rationalization of energy consumption will continue to be major areas of work. An interdisciplinary emphasis will be given to issues related to environment, especially within the context of follow-up on the implementation of Agenda 21. Finally, information and data in the area of natural resources will be expanded to include water statistics.

Activities

1. International cooperation

External relations. Liaison and cooperation will be maintained with LAS, the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries, IAEA, OECD, the World Energy Council, the Liquified Petroleum Gas Forum, the OIC Islamic Development Bank; the Institute for Geoscience and Natural Resources, the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for Environment and the Centre on Environment and Development in the Arab Region and Europe.

2. Parliamentary services

(a) *Parliamentary documentation*. Reports to the Commission on (i) the establishment of a committee on energy and a committee on water; (ii) follow-up action to Agenda 21; and (iii) work of the inter-agency working group on the role of non-governmental organizations active in the water sector;

(b) *Substantive services*. Substantive contribution to the Joint Committee on Environment and Development in the Arab Region;

(c) Ad hoc expert group meeting on the development of non-conventional water resources.

3. Published material

(a) *Non-recurrent publications*. (i) Regional approach for efficient use of energy; (ii) regional programme for the development of new and renewable energy resources: assessment and prospects; (iii) development of non-conventional water resources; (iv) water legislation; (v) coordination of national efforts for optimal utilization of shared water resources in the region; (vi) review of the impact of pricing policies on water demand; (vii) water pollution in selected urban areas in the region: case-studies; (viii) survey on incorporating the environmental dimension into development plans; (ix) follow-up study on the trade policy aspects of environmental measures in countries of the region: textile and leather products; (x) foreign investment legislation reflecting environmental concerns in the ESCWA region; and (xi) study on environmentally sound technologies in selected industries;

(b) *Technical material*. Development and maintenance of databases on energy statistics and water statistics.

4. Coordination, harmonization and liaison

Coordination and liaison with UNEP, the Department for Development Support and Management Services, UNDP, UNICEF, FAO, the regional commissions and the Advisory Committee on Coordination Subcommittee on Water Resources.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

19.18 Resources would provide for 12 posts in the Professional category and above and 8 Local level posts.

Consultants and experts

19.19 The estimated requirements of $86,100 relate to consultants to provide expertise in the preparation of specialized studies and reports ($59,800) and to the convening of expert group meetings ($26,300).

Travel

19.20 The estimated requirements of $50,300, reflecting a reduction of $51,500, relate to travel of staff for consultations with government representatives, collection of data and participation at inter-agency and other meetings of relevance to the subprogramme.

Subprogramme 2
Improvement of the quality of life

Table 19.10 **Summary by object of expenditure**
(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1992-1993 expenditures*	*1994-1995 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*1996-1997 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	2 766.3	3 512.0	—	—	3 512.0	237.4	3 749.4
Consultants and experts	118.9	121.8	(11.4)	(9.3)	110.4	5.8	116.2
Travel	40.2	83.2	—	—	83.2	4.3	87.5
Contractual services	9.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	**2 934.4**	**3 717.0**	**(11.4)**	**(0.3)**	**3 705.6**	**247.5**	**3 953.1**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1992-1993 expenditures	*1994-1995 estimates*	*Source of funds*	*1996-1997 estimates*
		(a) Services in support of:	
—	—	(i) United Nations organizations	—
—	—	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	—
—	—	(b) Substantive activities	—
		(c) Operational projects	
196.5	94.5	UNDP	141.0
460.3	329.3	UNFPA	205.0
—	—	UNESCO	25.0
—	65.0	UNIFEM	68.0
200.3	82.6	ESCWA Trust Fund	—
—	203.1	Other multilateral sources	139.0
—	76.0	Bilateral sources	32.5
Total	**857.1**	**850.5**	**610.5**
Total (1) and (2)	**3 791.5**	**4 567.5**	**4 563.6**

Table 19.11 **Post requirements**

Programme: Improvement of the quality of life

	Established posts		Temporary posts				Total	
	Regular budget		Regular budget		Extrabudgetary resources			
	1994-1995	1996-1997	1994-1995	1996-1997	1994-1995	1996-1997	1994-1995	1996-1997
Professional category and above								
D-1	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
P-5	3	3	—	—	1	—	4	3
P-4/3	8	8	—	—	—	—	8	8
P-2/1	3	3	—	—	—	—	3	3
Total	**15**	**15**	**—**	**—**	**1**	**—**	**16**	**15**
Other categories								
Local level	12	12	—	—	1	—	13	12
Total	**12**	**12**	**—**	**—**	**1**	**—**	**13**	**12**
Grand total	**27**	**27**	**—**	**—**	**2**	**—**	**29**	**27**

19.21 In 1994-1995, the main activities of this subprogramme concerned preparations for major international conferences and related issues. In that context, issues relating to poverty in selected economic and social aspects constituted the core theme for the subprogramme. Other issues of importance related to the integration of youth and the disabled.

19.22 In 1996-1997, in the area of statistics, poverty measurement and gender statistics will be given special emphasis. A new activity will be introduced dealing with the conceptualization of a region-specific/gender-specific index on the status of Arab women in order to monitor change and propose action-oriented policies. The subprogramme will also focus on issues related to human development, population policies, community development through field projects promoting community participation of men and women in the villages and integrating community-based rehabilitation of the disabled, provision of adequate shelter and the problems of urbanization, and the development of entrepreneurship in support of human development through productive employment and the promotion of small and medium-size enterprises.

19.23 In the area of women and development, there will be a shift from operational projects to developing an information system, undertaking more research and studies, and convening meetings and seminars to raise awareness, as well as to discuss findings of research and to recommend policies and action plans. Particular attention will be given to implementation of the recommendations of the Fourth World Conference on Women.

Activities

1. International cooperation

External relations. Liaison and coordination will be maintained with the following organizations: LAS and its affiliated bodies, such as the Arab Labour Organization, the Council of Arab Ministers for Social Affairs, the Council of Arab Ministers for Housing and Reconstruction and the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, the Arab Demographic Association and the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population, the Arab Gulf Programme for United Nations Development Organizations, the Arab Women's Centre for Training and Research Tunis, the Bureau for Urban Management Programmes and the Centre for Environment and Development for the Arab Region and Europe.

2. Parliamentary services

(a) *Substantive services*. Substantive servicing of the meeting of the Committee on Social Development;

(b) *Ad hoc expert group meetings*. (i) Population policies: exchange of national experiences; (ii) cultural dimension of development: towards a practical approach; (iii) secondary cities and sustainable urban development; (iv) techno-entrepreneurship and business incubators; (v) the 2000 round of population and housing censuses, 1997; and (vi) poverty measurement.

3. Published material

(a) *Recurrent publications*. (i) *Population Bulletin*, Nos. 43 and 44 (2); (ii) demographic and related socio-economic data sheets; (iii) population estimates and projections; (iv) social survey of the ESCWA region; (v) news bulletin on human settlements in the Arab world (four); and (vi) compendium of social statistics and indicators;

(b) *Non-recurrent publications*. (i) Assessment of the role of non-governmental organizations active in the water sector; (ii) appropriate national population measures and programmes for sustainable development in the region; (iii) assessment of the population situation in the region in 1997 and future trends; (iv) manual/guideline on formulation of population policies; (v) critical assessment of the UNDP *Human Development Report* (2); (vi) selected technical studies on sustainable human development (2); (vii) annotated bibliography of research on sustainable human development; (viii) development of a status-of-women index, including feminization of poverty; (ix) annotated bibliography on Arab women and the family: a critical assessment; (x) policies and measures: inventory of non-governmental organizations and directory of national machineries; (xi) study on secondary cities and sustainable urban development; (xii) community participation in urban development in the region; (xiii) accessibility for the disabled in the urban environment in the region; (xiv) youth in the urban environment in the region; and (xv) report on business incubators in the region;

(c) *Technical material*. Development and maintenance of databases on social statistics and human settlements on gender statistics and indicators, and on labour force statistics.

4. Operational activities

(a) *Advisory services*. Formulation and evaluation of national population policies; support to ESCWA member States in preparing national human development reports; human settlement development; support to national institutions on organizing workshops/courses on starting one's own business; and development of gender statistics, civil registration statistics and vital statistics;

(b) *Group training*. Workshops on the integration of population variables into the development planning process; on community development; and on gender statistics;

(c) *Field projects*. Integrating community-based rehabilitation of the disabled; establishing a training centre on the use of computers for blind girls at Amman; community development services; and promotion and establishment of business incubators in selected ESCWA countries.

5. Coordination, harmonization and liaison

Activities will be coordinated with the Population Division of the Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis, UNFPA, the Inter-Agency Task Force on Population, ILO, UNDP, UNESCO, UNRISD, UNIFEM, UNV, INSTRAW, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), and the Administrative Committee on Coordination Subcommittee on Rural Development.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

19.24 Resources would provide for 15 posts in the Professional category and above and 12 Local level posts.

Consultants and experts

19.25 The estimated requirements of $110,400, reflecting a reduction of $11,400, relate to consultants to provide expertise in the preparation of a number of studies and reports ($54,500) and for convening expert group meetings ($55,900).

Travel

19.26 The estimated requirements of $83,200 relate to travel of staff for consultations with Governments, collection of data and participation at inter-agency and other meetings of relevance to the subprogramme.

Subprogramme 3
Economic development and cooperation

Table 19.12 **Summary by object of expenditure**
(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1992-1993 expenditures*	*1994-1995 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*1996-1997 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	4 593.2	5 449.8	(119.1)	(2.1)	5 330.7	393.7	5 724.4
Consultants and experts	172.4	319.1	27.0	8.4	346.1	19.5	365.6
Travel	109.1	138.0	—	—	138.0	7.6	145.6
Contractual services	9.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	**4 883.7**	**5 906.9**	**(92.1)**	**(1.5)**	**5 814.8**	**420.8**	**6 235.6**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1992-1993 expenditures	*1994-1995 estimates*	*Source of funds*	*1996-1997 estimates*
		(a) Services in support of:	
—	—	(i) United Nations organizations	—
—	—	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	—
—	—	(b) Substantive activities	—
		(c) Operational projects	
54.2	20.8	UNDP	30.0
—	135.3	Other multilateral sources	40.0
—	—	Bilateral sources	10.0
54.2	**156.1**		**80.0**
4 937.9	**6 063.0**		**6 315.6**

Table 19.13 **Post requirements**

Programme: Economic development and cooperation

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1994-1995	*1996-1997*	*1994-1995*	*1996-1997*	*1994-1995*	*1996-1997*	*1994-1995*	*1996-1997*
Professional category and above								
D-1	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
P-5	6	6	—	—	—	—	6	6
P-4/3	13	13	—	—	—	—	13	13
P-2/1	3	3	—	—	—	—	3	3
Total	**23**	**23**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**23**	**23**
Other categories								
Local level	21	18	—	—	—	—	21	18
Total	**21**	**18**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**21**	**18**
Grand total	**44**	**41**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**44**	**41**

19.27 The main focus of work during the biennium 1994-1995 was on promoting regional cooperation and integration in selected areas in the fields of food and agriculture, international trade, industry, energy, transport and statistics.

19.28 In the biennium 1996-1997, special emphasis will be placed on promoting regional cooperation among member States of ESCWA in areas of national legislation dealing with foreign investment and the development of trading companies; establishing gas and electricity networks; facilitation of transport links; food security through long-range planning and coordination; and integration of agricultural development plans and policies at the regional and subregional levels. The *Journal of Development* will be published for the first time to provide a forum for the interaction of multidisciplinary thinking on the problems confronting the region.

19.29 The secretariat will also continue to assist member States in the establishment of support institutions and services to industry; strengthen linkages of research and development institutions with production and service sectors; promote joint ventures in manufacturing and cooperation in the utilization and application of science and technology for development; and expand and develop statistical databases, in particular, on economics, industry, finance and national accounts. New work will be initiated on developing science and technology indicators and special attention will be paid to the promotion of the 1993 system of national accounts.

Activities

1. International cooperation

External relations. Relations will be maintained with the Arab Monetary Fund; LAS, the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries, the Federation of Arab Chambers of Commerce and other relevant professional associations and non-governmental organizations, the Arab Industrial Development and Mining Organization, the Islamic Foundation for Science and Technology and Development, the Federation of Arab Scientific Research Councils, OIC, the Arab Railways Union, the Near East/North Africa Regional Agricultural Credit Association, the Agricultural Food and Marketing Association for the Near East and North Africa, the Arab Centre for Studies of Arid Zones and Dry Lands, the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development, the International Centre for Agricultural and Research Development in Dry Areas, the Centre for Agricultural and Rural Development in the Near East, the Arab Federation for Food Industries and the International Statistical Institute.

2. *Parliamentary services*

(a) *Parliamentary documentation*. Five reports to the Commission: (i) survey of the economic and social developments in the region: summary (2); (ii) existing border crossing formalities and agreements for the transport of goods and persons; (iii) follow-up action on the implementation of the second phase of the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific (1992-1996) in the region; (iv) report to the Statistical Committee and the Commission on the following topics: ESCWA statistical activities during the biennium 1996-1997; activities during the biennium 1998-1999; the regional household survey project; implementation of the 1993 system of national accounts; and recommendations adopted by seminars and workshops convened during the biennium 1996-1997;

(b) *Substantive services*. Second session of the Statistical Committee;

(c) *Ad hoc expert group meetings*. (i) Prospects for a regional and interregional electricity network; (ii) prospects for establishing a regional gas network; (iii) prospects for the development of trading companies in the region; (iv) promotion of research and development capabilities in the region: local technological inputs; (v) border crossing formalities and agreements for transport of goods and services; (vi) intra- and interregional transport links and infrastructure; (vii) promoting regional coordination and integration in food and agriculture; (viii) implementation of the 1993 system of national accounts; and (ix) industrial surveys and the requirements of the 1993 system of national accounts.

3. *Published material*

(a) *Fifteen recurrent publications*. (i) Survey of economic and social developments in the region (2); (ii) *Journal of Development*; (iii) *ESCWA Transport Bulletin*, Nos. 7 and 8; (iv) *Statistical Abstract* of the region, Nos. 16 and 17; (v) *Bulletin of National Accounts*, Nos. 16 and 17; (vi) *External Trade Bulletin* of the region, No. 8; (vii) *Bulletin on Prices and Index Numbers* in the region, Nos. 14 and 15; (viii) *Bulletin of Industrial Statistics in the Arab Countries*, No. 3; and (ix) *Agriculture and Development in Western Asia Bulletin*, Nos. 18 and 19;

(b) *Non-recurrent publications*. (i) Technical and economic aspects of the establishment of a regional electricity network and prospects for interregional connections; (ii) proposal for the establishment of a mechanism for a regional gas network; (iii) proposal for a *modus operandi* of the regional gas network; (iv) assessment of trade practices and international trading companies and identification of prospects for the development of trading companies in the ESCWA region; (v) compendium of national legislation governing foreign direct investment in the region: an authoritative English version; (vi) assessment of research and development capabilities in the region: local technological inputs; (vii) survey and assessment of sources of information in industry in the region; (viii) biotechnology perspectives in agricultural development; (ix) science and technology indicators; (x) regional guidelines for transport agreements and conventions; (xi) assessment of intra- and interregional transport links and transport infrastructures; (xii) assessment of existing border crossing formalities and agreements for transport of goods and persons; (xiii) policy and project proposals for the development of a multimodal transport system in the region; (xiv) promotion of regional coordination and integration in food and agriculture; (xv) commodity-specific policy analysis matrix for two selected ESCWA countries (2); (xvi) long-term perspectives on food and agriculture production in the region; and (xvii) work towards the establishment of an ESCWA information system, including an assessment of the status of statistics in ESCWA member States;

(c) *Technical material*. Development and maintenance of databases on economic statistics, industrial statistics, financial statistics and on national accounts.

4. *Operational activities*

(a) *Advisory services*. Technical advice to ESCWA member States in the transport sector;

(b) *Field projects*. Promotion of identified engineering infrastructure projects.

5. Coordination, harmonization and liaison

Coordination and harmonization of activities and liaison will be maintained with the Statistical Division of the Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis, UNIDO, the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development, UNEP, UNCTAD, the regional commissions, the Regional Office for Science and Technology for the Arab States (UNESCO), ILO, the World Bank, the Administrative Committee on Coordination/Subcommittee on Statistical Activities and its inter-agency working groups, and the Inter-Agency Committee on Sustainable Development.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

19.30 Resources would provide for 23 posts in the Professional category and above and 18 Local level posts. Three Local level posts are proposed to be redeployed from this subprogramme to executive direction and management to support the Secretary of the Commission in carrying out his expanded responsibilities in the area of monitoring multidisciplinary task forces (two posts) and to programme support to strengthen the Technical Cooperation Division in carrying out its expanded mandates and functions in supporting regional advisory services (one post).

Consultants and experts

19.31 The estimated requirements of $346,100, reflecting an increase of $27,000, relate to consultants to provide expertise in the preparation of specialized studies and reports in a number of areas covered by the subprogramme ($116,400) and the convening of expert group meetings ($229,700). The proposed increase would be required for the latter.

Travel

19.32 The estimated requirements of $138,000 would provide for consultations with Governments and intergovernmental organizations, data collection and participation at inter-agency and other meetings.

Subprogramme 4
Regional development and global changes

Table 19.14 **Summary by object of expenditure**
(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1992-1993 expenditures*	*1994-1995 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*1996-1997 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	1 512.8	1 890.1	—	—	1 890.1	123.5	2 013.6
Consultants and experts	73.2	101.3	11.0	10.8	112.3	6.1	118.4
Travel	49.6	28.5	—	—	28.5	1.5	30.0
Total	**1 635.6**	**2 019.9**	**11.0**	**0.5**	**2 030.9**	**131.1**	**2 162.0**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1992-1993 expenditures	1994-1995 estimates	Source of funds	1996-1997 estimates
		(a) Services in support of:	
—	—	(i) United Nations organizations	—
—	—	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	—
—	—	(b) Substantive activities	—
		(c) Operational projects	
—	—	Other multilateral sources	20.0
Total	**—**	**—**	**20.0**
Total (1) and (2)	**1 635.6**	**2 019.9**	**2 182.0**

Table 19.15 **Post requirements**

Programme: Regional development and global changes

	Established posts		Temporary posts					
	Regular budget		Regular budget		Extrabudgetary resources		Total	
	1994-1995	1996-1997	1994-1995	1996-1997	1994-1995	1996-1997	1994-1995	1996-1997
Professional category and above								
D-1	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
P-5	2	2	—	—	—	—	2	2
P-4/3	5	5	—	—	—	—	5	5
Total	**8**	**8**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**8**	**8**
Other categories								
Local level	4	4	—	—	—	—	4	4
Total	**4**	**4**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**4**	**4**
Grand total	**12**	**12**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**12**	**12**

19.33 The activities of the subprogramme during the biennium 1996-1997 will aim at strengthening the capacities of decision makers in the member States by providing recommendations and alternative policy options for dealing more effectively with the current economic challenges and anticipated constraints and obstacles in order to design appropriate sets of macroeconomic policies. This subprogramme will consist of activities clustered around two main issues: (a) the new international trade agreement (Uruguay Round) in selected areas (agriculture, industry and trade) and resulting economic adjustment requirements; and (b) the challenge that faces the region in economic reform policies, in particular the privatization process.

Activities

1. International cooperation

External relations. Coordination of activities with LAS and other regional organizations active in the area covered by the new international trade agreement (Uruguay Round) and ISO and of interest to member States of the region.

2. Parliamentary services

Ad hoc expert group meetings. (i) Privatization efforts: governance and institutional aspects; (ii) challenges and opportunities of the new international trade agreement (Uruguay Round): post-Uruguay preparations and adjustments; (iii) the impact of the new international trade agreement (Uruguay Round) and the quality

standards of industrial products (ISO 9000) on selected industries (e.g. agro-food, textile and leather industries); and (iv) eradication of poverty in Western Asia: towards a plan of action.

3. Published material

Non-recurrent publications. (i) Impact of privatization on electric power generation in ESCWA member States; (ii) inter-linkages between macroeconomic policies, poverty and sustainable development in selected ESCWA countries: a study of coordinated policies; (iii) case-studies on governance and institutional aspects as related to privatization (2); (iv) challenges and opportunities of the new international trade agreement (Uruguay Round): post-Uruguay preparations and adjustments in selected sectors; (v) social consequences of structural adjustment policies (RB/XB); (vi) eradicating poverty in Western Asia; and (vii) entrepreneurial and managerial skills under conditions of uncertainty.

4. Operational activities

Advisory services. Advisory services to member States on issues related to the new international trade agreement (Uruguay Round) and ISO 9000.

5. Coordination, harmonization and liaison

Collaboration and liaison with UNCTAD, the regional commissions and the Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

19.34 Resources would provide for eight posts in the Professional category and above and four Local level posts.

Consultants and experts

19.35 The estimated requirements of $112,300, reflecting an increase of $11,000, relate to consultants to provide expertise and/or specialized inputs in the preparation of a number of studies ($47,900) and to the convening of ad hoc expert group meetings ($64,400).

Travel

19.36 The estimated requirements of $28,500 relate to travel of staff for consultations, collection of information and participation at meetings relevant to the subprogramme.

Subprogramme 5
Special programmes and issues

Table 19.16 **Summary by object of expenditure**
(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1992-1993 expenditures*	*1994-1995 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*1996-1997 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	1 163.7	1 439.5	—	—	1 439.5	95.5	1 535.0
Consultants and experts	30.7	52.7	—	—	52.7	2.7	55.4
Travel	25.4	19.9	—	—	19.9	1.0	20.9
Total	**1 219.8**	**1 512.1**	—	—	**1 512.1**	**99.2**	**1 611.3**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1992-1993 expenditures	1994-1995 estimates	Source of funds	1996-1997 estimates
		(a) Services in support of:	
—	—	(i) United Nations organizations	—
—	—	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	—
		(b) Substantive activities	
74.1	20.0	ESCWA Trust Fund	—
		(c) Operational projects	
—	—	UNICEF	20.0
—	11.9	UNIFEM	20.0
—	161.4	Bilateral sources	92.5
74.1	**193.3**	**Total**	**132.5**
1 293.9	**1 705.4**	**Total (1) and (2)**	**1 743.8**

Table 19.17 **Post requirements**

Programme: Special programmes and issues

Established posts		Temporary posts					
Regular budget		Regular budget		Extrabudgetary resources		Total	
1994-1995	1996-1997	1994-1995	1996-1997	1994-1995	1996-1997	1994-1995	1996-1997
Professional category and above							
D-1	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
P-5	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
P-4/3	4	4	—	—	—	—	4	4
Total	**6**	**6**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**6**	**6**
Other categories								
Local level	3	3	—	—	—	—	3	3
Total	**3**	**3**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**3**	**3**
Grand total	**9**	**9**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**9**	**9**

19.37 Support to national efforts for rehabilitation of the agriculture, transport and human settlement sectors was rendered to Lebanon during the biennium 1994-1995, in an effort to contribute towards the rehabilitation of that country and to assist it in the process of reconstruction. Similar support was rendered for the rehabilitation of the agricultural sector in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Efforts were also made in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip to promote small and medium-size entrepreneurship within the context of rehabilitation and alleviation of poverty by assisting people in starting their own business. Support was also provided to the least developed member country in the region, Yemen, in the framework of the new Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s.

19.38 During the biennium 1996-1997, this subprogramme will focus on two main areas: the assessment of the impact of peace on selected sectors, especially agriculture, industry, finance and services; and the promotion of the agriculture sector, small enterprises and managerial skills in the occupied Palestinian territories and Palestinian cities and villages. Another important area of activity relates to the prospects for networking among the non-governmental organizations, as local institutions for continuity and change, in the occupied Palestinian territories.

Activities

1. International cooperation

External relations. Liaison and consultations with LAS and its specialized agencies, such as the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, with the Arab Gulf Programme for United Nations Development Organizations and other regional organizations and bilateral donors in implementing joint activities.

2. Parliamentary services

Ad hoc expert group meetings. (i) Prospects of networking among non-governmental organizations in the occupied Palestinian territories and under the Palestinian National Authority; and (ii) impact of the peace process on selected sectors.

3. Published material

(a) *Recurrent publication*. Review of the progress made in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s;

(b) *Non-recurrent publications*. (i) Impact of the peace process on selected sectors; (ii) assessment of regional financial institutions within the context of the peace process; (iii) new emerging urbanization trends in relation to recent regional changes: input into the Arab Regional Population Conference; (iv) exploratory study on Arab cultural identity within the peace perspective; (v) assessment of the role of non-governmental organizations and prospects for networking among them in the occupied Palestinian territories and under the Palestinian National Authority: case-studies; (vi) the situation of Palestinian cities and villages and prospects for development; and (vii) rehabilitation of the agriculture sector in the occupied Palestinian territories: preparation of two project documents in priority areas (two issues).

4. Operational activities

(a) *Advisory services*. Provision of technical assistance to the Palestinian National Authority, Yemen and other ESCWA member States with special needs;

(b) *Field project*. Project to establish technology business incubators in the West Bank and Gaza.

5. Coordination, harmonization and liaison

Joint country-specific activities will be coordinated with UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA and ILO.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

19.39 Resources would provide for six posts in the Professional category and above and three Local level posts.

Consultants and experts

19.40 The estimated requirements of $52,700 relate to consultants to provide expertise and/or inputs in the preparation of a number of studies and reports ($24,200) and to the convening of ad hoc expert group meetings ($28,500).

Travel

19.41 The estimated requirements of $19,900 relate to travel of staff for consultations, collection of information and participation at meetings of relevance to the subprogramme.

D. Programme support

Table 19.18 **Summary by object of expenditure**
(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1992-1993 expenditures*	*1994-1995 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*1996-1997 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	12 536.7	11 355.7	629.0	5.5	11 984.7	1 063.8	13 048.5
Other staff costs	103.4	97.5	—	—	97.5	6.8	104.3
Consultants and experts	30.0	52.6	(36.2)	(68.8)	16.4	0.9	17.3
Travel	64.4	68.1	—	—	68.1	4.5	72.6
Contractual services	269.8	452.9	(6.4)	(1.4)	446.5	30.8	477.3
General operating expenses	3 059.7	3 119.5	25.2	0.8	3 144.7	217.4	3 362.1
Supplies and materials	535.9	548.2	—	—	548.2	38.1	586.3
Equipment	542.0	790.8	—	—	790.8	54.6	845.4
Total	**17 141.9**	**16 485.3**	**611.6**	**3.7**	**17 096.9**	**1 416.9**	**18 513.8**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1992-1993 expenditures	*1994-1995 estimates*	*Source of funds*	*1996-1997 estimates*
		(a) Services in support of:	
—	—	(i) United Nations organizations	—
335.7	37.0	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	—
—	—	(b) Substantive activities	—
—	—	(c) Operational projects	—
335.7	**37.0**		**—**
17 477.6	**16 522.3**		**18 513.8**

Table 19.19 **Post requirements**

Programme: Programme support

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1994-1995	*1996-1997*	*1994-1995*	*1996-1997*	*1994-1995*	*1996-1997*	*1994-1995*	*1996-1997*
Professional category and above								
D-1	2	2	—	—	—	—	2	2
P-5	5	5	—	—	—	—	5	5
P-4/3	19	19	—	—	—	—	19	19
P-2/1	6	7	—	—	—	—	6	7
Total	32	33	—	—	—	—	32	33
Other categories								
Local level	127	127	—	—	—	—	127	127
Field Service	3	3	—	—	—	—	3	3
Total	**130**	**130**	—	—	—	—	**130**	**130**
Grand total	**162**	**163**	—	—	—	—	**162**	**163**

19.42 Programme support comprises the Technical Cooperation Division and the Administrative Services Division, including conference and library services, and information services.

Activities

1. Conference and library services

Activities will include the provision of conference services to meetings of policy-making bodies of ESCWA and other intergovernmental and ad hoc expert group meetings, including regional preparatory conferences for global conferences; editing, translation and printing of documents and publications; and library services.

2. Information services

Services to be provided relate to ESCWA activities, as well as those undertaken jointly with the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, and include the issuance of a fortnightly newsletter on ESCWA activities, periodic bulletins, press releases and news dispatches concerning United Nations and ESCWA activities. Other activities are liaison with the news media, governmental and non-governmental organizations, educational institutions and other local redisseminators of information.

3. Management of technical cooperation

Services provided include coordination, identification and formulation of project proposals, execution and monitoring of projects; organization of training courses, seminars and fellowships; liaison with government and non-governmental officials; and publication of reports on missions by regional advisers. During the biennium, special efforts will be made to mobilize extrabudgetary resources through fund-raising activities and to increase the capacity of ESCWA to execute, alone or in collaboration with others, technical cooperation projects efficiently, as well as to carry out an expanded programme of training and fellowships.

4. Administrative services

The Administrative Services Division will provide services in connection with human resource management, financial administration and resource planning, use of common services and electronic support to facilitate the implementation of the work programme.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

19.43 The staffing table would comprise 33 posts in the Professional category and above, 127 Local level and 3 Field Service posts, reflecting the proposed reclassification of one Local level post to P-2 as a result of the reclassification exercise carried out at ESCWA, and the redeployment of one Local level post from subprogramme 3, Economic development and cooperation, to strengthen the Technical Cooperation Division.

19.44 The resource increase of $629,000 proposed for the biennium 1996-1997 reflects the net result of the reclassification of posts approved in 1994-1995 and the proposed reclassification and redeployment for 1996-1997.

Other staff costs

19.45 The estimated requirements of $97,500 relate to general temporary assistance and would cover the replacement of staff on extended sick leave and maternity leave as well as overtime during peak periods of work.

Consultants and experts

19.46 The estimated requirements of $16,400 would cover the cost of medical expertise.

Travel

19.47 The estimated requirements of $68,100 would provide for travel of staff for consultations and participation in meetings on administrative, personnel, budget and finance, procurement and security matters.

Contractual services

19.48 The estimated requirements of $446,500 relate to contractual translation, editing, external printing and binding and data-processing services.

General operating expenses

19.49 The estimated requirements of $3,144,700 would provide for the rental and maintenance of premises ($1,616,700), utilities ($388,500), communications ($669,400), hospitality ($14,500), miscellaneous costs ($134,200) and rental of equipment ($321,400).

Supplies and materials

19.50 The estimated requirements of $548,200 would cover the costs of office supplies and materials for data processing and internal printing, and library books.

Equipment

19.51 The estimated requirements of $790,800 would provide for the acquisition and replacement of equipment.